Fairbury — A Brief History of Its Early Settlement
Published in The Fairbury Blade, March 2, 1889
Total Word Count: 12,206 words
Transcribed by: Dale C. Maley
Date of Transcription: 2026

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1889.

FAIRBURY.

A Brief History of Its Early Settlement.

A Resumé of Its Churches and Social Organizations.

Its Rapid Growth and Excellent Future Prospects.

The Excellence of Its Public Schools.
Its Advantages as a Trading Point.

Illustrated by Sketches of Its Leading Business Men and Their Various Lines of Trade.

The rapid growth in population and wealth of the great prairie states of the west is one of the wonders of the half century in which we live. At the beginning of the century a journey from the seaboard to the head waters of the streams that empty into the Mississippi, involved more hardship and toil and consumed more time than is now required to circumnavigate the globe. When those streams were reached, the sluggish flat boat, slowly borne along by the current, or laboriously propelled against it by means of oars or poles, was the most expeditious mode of transportation. There was little to tempt the most enterprising pioneer to brave the hardships of such a journey. If he found a fertile soil ready to yield its treasures at his touch, their very abundance was a mockery to his toil, for it required long, weary journeys to reach a market where his surplus products could be exchanged for articles necessary for the comfort of his family. The advent of the steamboat added greatly to the means of transportation, and it was believed that the acme of rapid transit had been reached. A great impetus was then given to emigration. Towns and cities sprang up along the principal water ways, but the most hardy pioneer was reluctant to go beyond easy reach of navigable rivers and even ventured beyond the timber that skirted those streams. Thus the wooded hills of the south in 1818 contained the principal part of the population of the new state. Population moved slowly and reluctantly northward along the timber bordered streams that drain the great prairies. But it was a slow, unwilling movement, a mere crowding-out process by which some were compelled to leave the great bodies of timber and seek shelter in the miniature groves which here and there relieved the monotony of the prairie landscape. But the population of the state had more than trebled before this pressure from the south was sufficient to force the first settler to venture within the present bounds of Livingston county. In 1829, sixty years ago, Mr. V. Darrah arrived with his family and made his home in Indian Grove, a few miles south-west of the present site of Fairbury. For twenty-five years the population increased very slowly. The small amount of timber in the county was insufficient to supply a large population with fuel and building material and it was the only dependence. About 1850 the building of railroads began to stimulate the settlement of the prairies, and though no railroad had yet reached Livingston county, sagacious men began to see that this new mode of locomotion would make the cultivation of the prairies possible. The C. & A. railroad was completed

through the county in 1854, and three years later the Peoria and Oquawka, now the T., P. & W. railroad, was built.

The same year the village of Fairbury, at first called South Avoca, was platted. The population of the county increased rapidly and the village had a prosperous growth from the start. The close of 1858 saw it quite a flourishing little village with stores, blacksmith shop, hotel, church, etc. In 1859 a large flouring mill was added to the industries of the village. The business houses at first clustered around the public square, but the most of them were destroyed by fires at various times and the business has gradually moved eastward on Locust street, until now the square is entirely deserted by business houses, with the single exception of Dahler & Son's carriage and blacksmith shop.

The village was incorporated in 1864. The population was then about 500 and though it has now attained a population that entitles it to rank as a city the village organization is still retained.

Fairbury was the first town in Central Illinois to attempt to develop the vast beds of coal underlying a great part of the state. Mr. M. L. Marsh began the work of sinking a shaft west of the village in 1862, and after incurring great expense and overcoming a great many discouraging difficulties, he reached a vein of coal at a depth of 216 feet. In 1867 a second shaft was sunk east of the village and a paying vein reached at a depth of 160 feet. Both of these mines are now abandoned but they added immensely to the growth in population and business of the village. In 1878 a third shaft was sunk near the western limits of the city, which is now owned and operated by Walton Bros. A fourth mine was opened by a co-operative company about three-fourths of a mile south-east of the village in 1886. These two latter mines are still in operation, giving employment to about fifty men and yielding a corresponding amount of coal.

In 1872 the Chicago and Paducah, now a branch of the Wabash railroad, was completed through the village. This gave competition in freights and direct communication with Chicago and St. Louis.

Fairbury has in the past suffered more loss by fire, in proportion to its size, than any city or village in the whole west. At different times nearly the whole business part of the village has been consumed, but each time she has arisen from her ashes more beautiful than before. Prior to 1887 the facilities for extinguishing fires were very meager, but in that year a system of water works was completed at a cost of about $8,000, which supplies an abundance of water at an elevation sufficient to carry it over the highest buildings in the village. A well drilled hose company is always ready to respond in case of an alarm of fire.

HOW THE VILLAGE LOOKS NOW.

The village is located on a gently undulating prairie, from which the water is drained readily and finds its way to Indian creek, which carries it northward to the Vermillion. The T., P. & W. railroad, running east and west, divides the village into nearly equal parts. The Wabash railroad, coming from the north-west, joins the T., P. & W. near the western limits and both roads use the same track from there to Forrest.

The bulk of the business is on Locust street, which runs parallel with the railroad on the north side. The north side of this street is built up for several blocks, mostly with substantial brick business houses; the south side is lined with mills, grain elevators, lumber yards &c. Throughout the residence portion of the village are many elegant buildings, and few that do not have a neat and comfortable appearance. Eight churches, some of them very elegant structures with their tall graceful spires, add to the beauty of the

scene. Away from the business center, the whole village presents an appearance of thrift, comfort and elegance. Along the principal business streets, the scene is one of bustle and business activity that is seldom seen in villages of its size.

Its location, in the center of a vast extent of the richest prairie lands in the state that are highly cultivated by an intelligent and prosperous class of farmers, makes Fairbury a natural shipping point for immense quantities of grain and live stock. To this natural advantage of position is added the superior shipping facilities provided by its two railroads, which give it direct communication with Chicago, St. Louis and the best markets of the east. The early development of its coal mines undoubtedly gave it a great advantage over its rivals, and brought much trade to the village that would have naturally gone elsewhere. But all, or a great part of these advantages, would have been lost but for the enterprising and liberal character of the men who do business here. Whether it is true or not it is believed by the people throughout a wide section of country that goods of all kinds can be bought in Fairbury as cheap as in Chicago, and this belief has become so general and extended so far that people come here from within a few miles of Bloomington to purchase their supplies, which are to be found here in almost as great variety as in that city. The merchants here do not try to get rich by the sale of a few dollars worth of goods, nor do the dealers in grain and live stock attempt to amass a fortune from the profits on one or two shipments. They have adopted and are carrying out a wiser course. By reducing their per cent. of profits they have increased their annual income and at the same time helped to build up a little city whose prosperity is the envy and wonder of surrounding villages and cities.

SCHOOLS.

The institution that above all others receives the greatest attention and commands the most generous financial support from the people of Fairbury is their public schools, and they have been brought to a high degree of efficiency by a liberal and wisely discriminating policy that has constantly demanded the best results without regard to cash. The people have been careful to select only men of education and intelligence to serve as school officers and they in turn have exercised care in employing competent teachers. The result has been a steady advance in the discipline of the schools, the grade of scholarship and the interest of both parents and pupils in the work of the schools.

Two buildings make up the present school purposes. The one on the north side was built in 1869 and is a frame building containing four rooms. The south side building is of brick and was erected in 1880. It contains eight large rooms, besides recitation and cloak rooms and a basement. The cut at the head of this article gives a very fair idea of its outside appearance. Inside it is well furnished and well supplied with apparatus, charts, globes of reference, etc., and heated with steam. Twelve teachers besides the principal are employed, four in the north side building and eight in the south side.

The course of study is divided into twelve grades, two in the primary department, three in the intermediate, four in the grammar, and three in the high school. Promotions are regularly made each year, but pupils who have satisfactorily completed any grade may be advanced to the next upon individual application to the principal.

The course of study comprehends all the branches necessary to thoroughly fit the pupil for the active business of life, for teaching or to enable him to prosecute his further studies alone or to enter the classes of the best colleges. Upon the completion of the high school course the pupil is awarded a diploma. The daily attendance in the high school is sixty, of whom eight are in the senior class. The

average monthly attendance is 550, including all departments. From the time the pupil enters the primary department, at six, till he graduates from the school at eighteen, he is drilled in the practical illustration of every principle he is required to learn. The memory is not allowed to take the place of the understanding, but thoroughness at every step is insisted upon, and before the pupil is allowed to pass a study he must understand as well as remember. The training given in bookkeeping and commercial calculations is a sample of the general system of practically illustrating and applying principles. Each pupil in this branch of study becomes by turn a banker, a merchant, a manufacturer, a broker, etc., transacting business with his fellow students, paying money, passing checks, making leases, mortgages, etc., and recording in his books the actual transactions, thus learning by practice to apply the principles laid down in the text books. This theory of illustration is carried into practice in every department, and the pupil is taught to think and reason and to rely on his own mental process.

The government of the schools is based upon mutual respect for the rights of each other, and the principles of self government are applied as far as practicable. This mode of government has had a happy effect in developing a sense of responsibility among the pupils and a patriotic pride in the schools, which makes violations of the rules of rare occurrence. Tardiness has been reduced to an astonishingly low point. During the month ended December 17th only seven pupils were tardy out of 543 on the rolls.

Prof. Bangs, who is the principal, is among the most distinguished educators of the state. He is assisted by a corps of teachers, who have been selected solely on account of their experience and high qualifications as instructors.

To those seeking a location, where their children may have the best possible educational advantages in an intelligent and moral community, there is no place that can offer inducements superior to those to be found in Fairbury.

To those preparing themselves to teach, the advantages are thoroughly competent instructors and the privilege of daily observation of the practical workings of a model school. Non-resident pupils are admitted to the schools by the payment of a small tuition fee.

M. E. CHURCH

This seems to have been the pioneer church organization in Fairbury, having been organized in 1858, a few months in advance of the organization of the Presbyterian church. At that time there were but twelve members. Services were held in the school house until the following autumn, when a church edifice was completed at a cost of $2,600. This building was a frame, and was removed in 1876 to give place to a large and elegant brick structure, which cost about $10,000. It was dedicated in December, but was destroyed by a storm that passed over the village in June, 1877. This was a severe loss to the congregation, but within a few weeks the work of rebuilding was begun and in January, 1878, the large, two story brick edifice with its stately spire had arisen from the ruins, and was dedicated by Rev. W. H. Adams. The cost of this building was about $8,000. Its seating capacity is about 600. The present membership is 275. Sunday school is kept up with an average attendance of 200.

Rev. R. B. Williams, who is the present pastor, is a native of Tennessee, and entered the Central Illinois conference in 1870. He is now in the second year of his present pastorate, but was pastor in 1876, at the time of the building of the first brick church, which was blown down.

CHRISTIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH.

This society was organized about 1874, with about eight members. The same year they purchased the old Presbyterian meeting house, which they moved to the south side of Paducah avenue, and still occupy. It is a frame building and has seats for 200 people. The present membership is about 100. Rev. John G. Steidinger has been their pastor for over twelve years. The affairs of the church are in a very satisfactory condition.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1868, and in 1885 erected a house of worship at a cost of $3,000, in which the congregation continued to worship, till 1888, when it was removed and an elegant brick structure erected on its site. This building has a seating capacity of about 400, and when completed its cost will be $6,000. It will be dedicated Sunday, March 10th. At present the communicants number ninety. An interesting Sabbath school is kept up with an average attendance of about eighty-five. The church has been without a pastor for nearly a year. The last incumbent was Rev. J. J. Crosby, who now resides in Holdridge, Nebraska.

AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1875, with a membership of about twenty. Their first house of worship was one originally erected by the Baptist congregation. In March, 1885, it was destroyed by fire. The same year the present building, which is a neat and comfortable frame, was erected. It will comfortably seat about 200 persons. A Sunday school is kept up, with an average attendance of about twelve. Though this little society numbers only fourteen persons, the necessary expenses are cheerfully borne. Their pastor is Rev. R. P. Tyler, who resides in Normal, and preaches here on alternate Sundays.

FREE METHODIST CHURCH.

This congregation was organized in 1883, with a membership of about thirty. In 1884 they erected a neat and comfortable frame building, which will comfortably seat about 220 people. The cost of this building was about $1,600, and of their parsonage about $1,000. The present membership is thirty-two. Each Sabbath their children, to the number of thirty, are instructed in the doctrines of the church. The affairs of the church are in a prosperous condition, financially and otherwise.

Rev. Newcomb is in the second year of his pastorate here. He is a native of Illinois, and comes to Fairbury from Sycamore, DeKalb county.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The organization of this church dates properly from 1868, though a little congregation had been gathered together and masses celebrated occasionally for ten years previous to that time. In 1868 under the pastorate of Rev. Father Fanning, a chapel was erected in the north-western part of the village, at a cost of about $4,000. A good house has been erected for the residence of the priest and the church is in a flourishing condition. The number of Catholic families in the parish could not exactly be ascertained in time for this article, but they exceed 150. Rev. Father Owens is the pastor.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1881, with a very small membership. They purchased the old Presbyterian church building and moved it to a new location. Since that time the church has prospered greatly and steadily increased in members till now the membership amounts to 115. A Sunday school with an average attendance of 90 and a young people's prayer-meeting with an attendance of 80 are kept up, besides auxiliary charitable societies under the management of the ladies of the church.

The pastor, Rev. J. A. Holton, is a native of Kentucky. He was graduated from Bethany college, West Virginia, in 1860, receiving the second honor in a class of thirty-two. He came to Illinois in 1878, and from Hoopeston to his present charge in October last.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1858 with a membership of ten. They had no house of worship till 1862, when the building now owned by the Christian society was erected, at a cost of $750. This building was used by the congregation till 1881 when it was sold and a more commodious and elegant structure was built at a cost of $4,000. The new church is well furnished and will comfortably seat about 350 people. The affairs of the church are in a satisfactory condition. An interesting Sunday school is kept up under the superintendency of Prof. Edward Bangs.

The pastor is Rev. D. L. Temple, who has been in charge of the church nearly two years.

SOCIETIES.

The following secret societies have flourishing organizations here, each embracing a large membership:

The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons are represented by Tarbolton Lodge, No. 351, chartered in 1860; Fairbury chapter, Royal Arch Masons, chartered in 1866; and St. Paul Commandery, Knights Templar, chartered in 1860.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows have a lodge which meets each Tuesday evening, and an encampment which meets on the second and fourth Monday night of each month.

The Modern Woodmen of America have an organization which holds its meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month.

The Grand Army of the Republic holds its meetings on the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month.

The Sons of Veterans meet the first and third Friday evenings of each month.

The Knights of Pythias hold their meetings each Thursday evening.

In addition to the foregoing, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Royal Templars of Temperance, the Knights of Father Mathew and the Ancient Order of Hibernians also have organizations here

The moral and social condition of a village of 2,500 people cannot be had while so many institutions, having for their object the promotion of the moral and social welfare of the community, include among their members so large a part of the population and receive so generous a support as they do here. These churches and societies can not fail to exercise a healthful influence, and powerfully aid the

development of a high moral tone in the community and fraternal feelings among its members.

J. R. RAYBURN, DENTIST.

Dr. Rayburn was born in Ohio, but came when quite young to McLean county, Illinois. For fourteen years he has been engaged in the practice of his profession in Fairbury, and in that time has built up a reputation and practice which extends to all the surrounding villages. His knowledge of every detail of his profession and skill in the surgical and mechanical departments are such as can only be acquired by long and careful study and practice. Old roots and teeth too badly decayed to admit of filling he soon transforms into good, serviceable teeth. He also makes teeth without plates, which has but recently been demonstrated to be practicable. He also has the best electrical appliances for use in extracting teeth. He is thoroughly acquainted with all the modern improvements and has all the latest apparatus. He keeps the Florence Prophylactic tooth brush and a tooth powder of very superior merits.

Dr. Rayburn fully warrants all his work and guarantees satisfaction in all cases. His office is over Walton Bros., where he is prepared to regulate and straighten teeth or cure the tooth ache instantaneously. He will always welcome his patrons and give his best skill to their service.

H. G. BINGHAM, CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.

Mr. Bingham was born in Genesee county New York, but moved to Wisconsin when ten years old. In 1869 he came to Illinois and ten years later to Fairbury. He is prepared to furnish plans and itemized estimates for all kinds of buildings and to furnish the material and do the work on contract. Those who contemplate building will do well to get his estimate and bid before making their contract, for however his bid may compare with those of his competitors, they may be sure that if they contract with Mr. Bingham their work will be honestly done, and it is well to consider whether this is not worth taking into consideration before the contract is closed.

He also does all kinds of turning and bracket cutting and grinds scissors, razors, etc. He also keeps a supply of gas, steam and water works repairs. He is the agent for Prescott's sliding door hangers, the only hanger yet invented that requires no track and no rollers. He handles Jones' Water Packing Pump, which he claims is absolutely the best pump in existence, and in support of this opinion he offers the following seven reasons with emphasis:

1st. — There is no terror or rubber packing to wear away, which gives trouble in other pumps.
2d. — As long as there is water in the well the pump is packed.
3d. — It creates no friction. There is no force to overcome except the actual weight of the water.
4th. — It pumps easier than any other pump.
5th. — It will never freeze up.
6th. — The pump needs no priming.
7th. — It will last a lifetime.

An old worn out pump may be made better than when new by the use of Jones’ water packing plungers

and cylinders.

Mr. Bingham is prepared to furnish a water packing pump in any style and size. Jones' water packing chain pump buckets. He will be glad to give any information in regard to these improved pumps, and will be pleased to have those who need anything in that line examine their merits for themselves.

Mr. Irion, known jeweler, was born in Wattenberg, Germany, and learned the clock maker's trade in that city. He was engaged in manufacturing clocks in his native city and in Baden for seven years. He afterwards went to Hungary and was there employed in the business of repairing watches and clocks. In 1877 he came to Fairbury and engaged in the jewelry business. He occupies a large room on the north side of Locust street which is fitted up with shelves, counters and large show cases, suitable for the proper display of a well selected stock of watches, clocks, silverware, and jewelry.

He handles all kinds of American watches in silver, gold and gold filled cases. His stock of clocks include the best made, in both plain and ornamental cases. His supply of silverware is very fine and comprises many very beautiful designs. His stock of ladies' and gentlemen's ornamental jewelry should be seen in order to be fully appreciated. It includes a wide range of styles in various sufficient to render them durable. He also keeps a stock of office cutlery, sewing machines, oils and general notions, and carries the celebrated Helpmate sewing machine, which has become immensely popular with all who have become acquainted with its superior merits.

In no business is it so easy to impose upon the ordinary buyer as in this, for this reason it is important to those who desire to make purchases, if they are not expert judges of such goods, to know a dealer whose representations can be relied upon, and such a man as Mr. Irion. His goods are for sale at reasonable prices and they will always prove to be represented.

F. O. BONDS, HARDWARE AND FARM IMPLEMENTS.

Mr. Hobbs was born in Mt. Carroll, Ill., and came to Livingston county and engaged in farming till 1875, when he engaged in the hardware business in Pontiac in company with his brother. In 1887 he came to Fairbury to engage in the hardware and implement business.

His stock occupies three large buildings. The hardware department is on the north side of Locust street and occupies a room 25x90 feet. Here he keeps a full line of shelf and heavy hardware. Every variety of hardware that is usually kept in any first-class establishment can be found in his stock. Among the attractive display of cooking stoves and ranges on the floors of the Climax and Lexington, which are very popular patterns. Among the heaters are the Equable and Peninsular cook stoves and the Planet and Auburn base burners.

The implement department occupies an adjoining room on the east side of the street, which is 25x120 feet. Here he keeps a stock of buggies, wagons and farm implements of all kinds. He has Hiram Wood's Cows, mowers and buggies, carriages and phaetons. He handles the McCormick binders and mowers, the Bonanza and Keystone corn planters and Brown cultivators. These specialties are mentioned only

to show the general character of his stock, which includes many implements of husbandry not mentioned, all the best patterns and makes.

His third room is in the rear of the hardware store, and is used for the storage of machinery and a part of the farm implements.

TAYLOR & WEAVER, REAL ESTATE LOAN AGENTS.

This firm have been engaged in loaning money on farm mortgages in Livingston, Ford and McLean counties for twenty-five years. Their office is over Walton Bros. store. They are correspondents of some of the strongest and most accommodating institutions in the country, and do business largely with the owners of the farms. They give direct connection with the owners of the funds. They always have money at command and to loan on farm mortgages for terms of three to five years at six and seven per cent. and receive and forward interest and principal without expense to the borrower.

Their long career in business in Fairbury has given them a wide circle of acquaintances in Livingston and the adjoining counties, and has made them familiar with the values of lands in the above named counties. They give their patrons necessary information without charge.

M. W. WILSON, LAW AND INSURANCE.

Mr. Wilson is a native of Danvers, Ill., but moved here in Gibson City. He studied law at Valparaiso, Indiana, and was admitted to the bar in 1887. In June, 1888, he succeeded to the law practice and insurance business of D. L. Murdoch, Esq. He represents the Phenix, Hartford, Home, Continental, North Western, National, Underwriters and Springfield insurance companies. These are all reliable companies that pay their losses promptly. It is to the manifest interest of every one who has property to insure to deal with a home agency, whose interests prompt careful attention to the interests of the assured.

Mr. Wilson is a young man of energy, enterprise, and ambitious to rise in the world, and his business entrusted to him will be carefully attended to.

W. F. PHILLIPS, PHOTOGRAPHER.

Mr. Phillips is a native of Indiana. He came to Fairbury in 1865 and remained here till 1867 when he went to Chicago and opened the Wabash Gallery, where he fitted up a photographic gallery in partnership with his brother. The partnership was dissolved after three years, and he established a gallery of his own. This gallery he sold in 1888 and purchased Walton Bros. gallery in Fairbury. This he refitted in good style and supplied it with the very best apparatus to be had.

His gallery occupies three rooms over Walton Bros. store, which are elegantly finished and decorated with fine portraits in India ink, water colors, crayon and sepia photographs. He is prepared to make all

sizes and styles of photographs, and guarantees satisfaction in every case. He is an expert in posing and gives particular attention to that part of his art, as no photograph can be good if the position is bad. He makes a specialty of enlarging old pictures in India ink, water colors and crayon, and makes them in all sizes up to full life size. Artists to visit his studio will give honor to pleasant entertainment to any hour of the day.

Mr. Phillips himself is a genial gentleman, whose smile is sufficient to soften or paralyze the average baby for a sufficient length of time to permit him to bring his instantaneous process to bear upon it and imprison the sweet expression on his negative. This smile is a valuable part of his stock; but he lavishes it without stint upon his friends and patrons who call upon him at his place of business.

I. S. BULL, DENTIST.

Dr. Bull is a native of La Salle county, Illinois. He began the study of dentistry in his father's office and afterwards completed it at the Western Dental college, St. Louis. He located for the practice of his profession in the city of Alton in 1879, where he continued till 1885, when he came to Fairbury and opened his dental parlors over Parsons' drug store. His reception room is tastefully furnished and his operating room is fitted up in good style and supplied with all the most approved modern appliances. Dr. Bull is a close student of his profession, and has given special attention to the subject of ulcerated teeth, in the treatment of which he has had marked success. His skill in the surgical and mechanical departments of his profession is unsurpassed and all work is warranted to give entire satisfaction.

Dr. Bull has already built up an extensive and profitable practice. He is always in demand for his advice, ready to attend to calls of all who require his services.

J. P. MOBERLY, GROCERIES AND QUEENSWARE.

Mr. Moberly's attention was first attracted to Bloomington, Ill., when only thirteen years old. In 1875 he opened a grocery in Fairbury and conducted the business till 1881, when he sold out, greatly to the regret of many who had been in the habit of dealing at his tables. He then formed a partnership with W. L. Baily and engaged in the grocery business. At the end of a year he sold his interest, but in 1883 bought the entire stock.

He occupies a large room on the north side of Locust street, every valuable inch of which is occupied by his large stock of goods. He keeps a full line of family and fancy groceries, confectioneries, cigars and tobacco. Queensware, Glassware and crockery occupy a large space in his establishment. He keeps the best brands of flour and a stock of canned goods of all kinds. He also keeps a supply of lubricating oils. His stock is large and clean and includes everything usually found in first-class establishments of the kind, and are sold at prices as low as the same class of goods can be bought for in any city.

T. A. McKENZIE, BLACKSMITH AND WAGON SHOP.

Mr. McKenzie is a native of Maine. He came to Chenoa, Ill., in 1867 and carried on his business there till 1873, when he came to Fairbury and started a carriage shop. In 1876 his shop with its contents was destroyed by fire. Since this misfortune he has worked at the blacksmith trade until recently when he bought Jonas Laughlin's blacksmith and wagon shop, on Locust street, opposite the Archer House.

Here he is prepared to carry on blacksmithing and wagon making in all their branches. Repairing, grinding and polishing plows receive special attention. Mr. McKenzie is an expert horse shoer and makes a specialty of that branch of his business.

He is also prepared to make and repair wagons and buggies neatly and substantially and keeps on hand a supply of the very best material for this purpose.

Mr. McKenzie is an honest and skillful mechanic who deserves the patronage of the public.

C. L. PERLEE, DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES.

Mr. Perlee was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. He came to Illinois in 1874, and for two years was engaged in teaching in the public schools. He was afterwards employed for several years as clerk in the establishment of Taylor Bros. In 1880 he engaged in the grocery business for himself. In 1886 he added a line of dry goods and fine groceries to his stock. He occupies a building 50x100 feet on east Locust street. The first floor is divided into two rooms, each 25x100 feet. In the east room he keeps a large stock of general groceries and canned goods, carpets, notions, ladies' cloaks and wraps and fine shoes. The west room is stocked with family and fancy groceries, queensware, glassware and men's boots and shoes.

Mr. Perlee carries on a very extensive business and his establishment is one of the largest in the county. In both the extent and quality of stock his establishment will compare favorably with establishments carrying the same lines in much larger cities, and his prices are not higher. Polite attention is given to all customers by a corps of gentlemanly and ladylike clerks who are always glad to display their goods and supply the wants of all who desire to become purchasers.

COOK BROS., HARDWARE, FURNITURE AND FARM IMPLEMENTS.

This firm is composed of three brothers, T. O., J. P. and H. C. Cook. They are all natives of Wayne county, Indiana, and began business here under their present firm name in 1874.

Their business occupies three large rooms in one of the four stories and a tin shop on the second floor, over their hardware department.

Their hardware stock is kept in a room 25x90 feet, on the north side of Locust street. A large line of heavy and shelf hardware is kept here. Their shelves contain every thing that belongs to a first class establishment of the kind. Their iron and steel department occupies the west room, and here they keep a full assortment of sheet iron, stove pipe, tinware, and all kinds of tin goods.

They have a very large assortment of cooking stoves and ranges, which are not surpassed by any in the market. They keep the original Round Oak heating stoves, which have gained great favor with the public for years. They also handle the Monitor Oak.

In a room adjoining this on the east side of the same size, they keep a stock of furniture that is not excelled for variety and elegance by any stock to be found outside of the large cities. Their elegant parlor and bed room sets and finely upholstered easy chairs and chairs and rockers make a display that will well repay a visit to their place of business. All the goods they handle are made of the best material and in the most substantial manner, from the plain and cheap to the elegant and expensive. Those who contemplate purchasing anything in this line should see this handsome collection before making their selections.

On the opposite side of the street is their farm implement building, which is 25x60 feet. Here they keep all kinds of farm implements and machinery that have, within the past quarter of a century, revolutionized the business of farming by decreasing the labor and increasing the profits of production.

They handle the J. I. Case steam threshers, which, in many respects, is superior to all others, the Moline wagon, the Flying Dutchman sulky plow and the Walter A. Wood binders and mowers. They also sell the Brown planters and check-rows and the Moline planter and check-rows, which, in the newest improvements in planters, are being so constructed as to be readily changed from a check-row to a drill.

They also handle wind mills and all kinds of haying machinery and a line of the best makes of buggies, carriages, road carts, etc. It will be seen from the above that the Cook brothers have an extensive establishment, and that they handle the best of goods in all their departments. They buy their goods on as favorable terms as any firm in the state, and can therefore sell at as low prices. They are a reliable firm and in all their transactions adhere strictly to correct and honorable business methods.

FAWKNER & SHELPURN, CLOTHING.

This firm is composed of C. W. Fawkner and M. C. Shelpurn. They occupy the first floor of a building on the north side of Locust street which has a frontage of 32 feet and a depth of 75 feet. It is divided into two rooms. In the larger, which is 32x65 feet, they keep their stock of clothing and gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, trunks and valises, which fill the shelves, show cases and tables.

With their large room fitted up, together with a full stock of materials, from the coarsest cloth and grades of cloth suitable for persons engaged in rough out door work, to the finest and nobbiest suits. All their clothing is cut in the latest styles and made in the most substantial manner. Their stock is so large that all sizes and shapes can be readily fitted.

Their stock of gents' furnishing goods is equally complete and attractive. A very attractive line of fashionable neckwear is displayed in their show cases, and their shelves are filled with a fine assortment of underwear and hats and caps of the latest shapes.

Their goods are all marked in plain figures and no variation from the prices so marked is made. To any

one who is acquainted with the prices asked for the same quality of goods elsewhere, theirs will seem extremely low, and no establishment in the county can show a better selection of goods.

Mr. Rawlins is a native of Indiana, where he was raised on a farm. During the war he served nearly three years in the 8th Kentucky and the 154th Indiana Vol. Inf. After the close of the war he came to Fairbury and was engaged in the harness business for twenty years. He was a partner in the firm of Fawkner & Shelpurn when the firm was formed.

Mr. Shelpurn was born and raised in Lesgoe county, New York, and began to learn the mercantile business as clerk in a store in that state. In 1885 he came to Fairbury and was employed as clerk in several mercantile "houses" here till 1887, when he began business for himself, as the junior member of the firm of Fawkner & Shelpurn. Both members of this firm are well known here, having been in business many years. They have a large circle of friends and acquaintances and are building up a good trade.

H. BALDWIN, RESTAURANT AND CONFECTIONERY.

Mr. Baldwin was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, but came to Illinois when quite young and lived in Watkins till 1875, when he began the restaurant business in Chenoa, Ill., where he continued till 1887, when he moved to Milford and opened a restaurant there. He sold this last business in 1888 and came to Fairbury.

He occupies a building 25x60 on the north side of Locust street. It is divided into two rooms, the first one containing his stock of confectionery, cigars, tobacco, canned goods, etc. The next is fitted up as a dining room. Here he is cooking meals, comprising everything to be had in the markets, every day. No better meals can be had anywhere for twenty-five cents, and indeed few hotels in the country are prepared to furnish meals that compare in price with them either in variety, cooking or quality.

Every thing about his establishment is kept scrupulously clean, and the tables were supplied to the highest possible degree of excellence. He has succeeded in building up a large trade and is rapidly gaining the patronage he deserves.

Mr. Baldwin is a pleasant, sociable gentleman, who is always solicitous about the comfort of his guests and patrons and is ready at all times to do every thing in his power to satisfy their wants. His place is a favorite resort for those who favor a first-class oyster house prepared in the best style of the culinary art. In the sultry months the delicious cooling drinks and ice cream which he keeps attract the perspiring populace to his place.

N. S. PARSONS, M. D., DRUGS.

Dr. Parsons was born in Beckmantown, New York. He received his literary education in the Methodist Episcopal Seminary, Burlington, Vermont, and began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Wm. S. Hollister at West Chazy, New York. After graduating, he attended the medical department of the

University of Vermont and was graduated in 1874. He afterwards came to Illinois, and in 1885 opened a drug store in a room 20x30 feet on the north side of Locust street.

His stock consists of the usual line of drugs and medicines to be found in any first-class drug store, attractively displayed in jars with show labels and in neat packages on the shelves. But besides these he has a fine assortment of fancy articles, books, toilet articles of all kinds, such as soaps, brushes, sponges and perfumery; a stock of toys, dolls, albums, toilet cases and musical instruments; a selection of books and tobacco; a full line of Spanish and other imported wines; also a stock of patent medicines, cigars and smokers' articles.

He is agent for Sherwin, Williams & Co.'s mixed paints and keeps white lead, oils, putty and glass.

Dr. Parsons does not devote all his time to the drug business, but is engaged in goods practice of his profession. He is a scholarly gentleman, a close student of his profession and has a lucrative practice in which is rapidly growing.

C. F. CARRITHERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

He is a native of Illinois. Came to Livingston county in 1878, and followed teaching for a number of years. He took a collegiate course at Eureka college and afterwards entered the study of law, graduating with the law department of 1885, and was admitted to the bar in 1887. Opened an office for the practice of law in Fairbury in 1888. He was elected city attorney of Livingston county in 1884 and during the succeeding four years credibly discharged the duties of that office.

He is now enjoying a good general law practice and enjoys the confidence of the entire community. He is located in a fine office over the First National bank. He is also a member of the insurance firm of Carrithers Bros. This firm represents a full line of reliable companies and place insurance in all branches, fire, tornado, accident and plate glass.

R. N. PROPERST, BUILDER.

The head of this firm is a native of Germany, but came to America in 1854. He has been a resident in Fairbury for twenty-four years.

They occupy the large brick building at the north-east corner of the old public square. This building is 40x100 feet and two stories high.

Here he carries on the manufacture of wagons, carriages, buggies, phaetons and barouches of the very best quality and style and the very finest finish. All their material is selected with the greatest care and none that is defective in the least degree is allowed to enter into the construction of any of their products. They also keep a stock of factory buggies, road carts and buggy and carriage harness. They also do all kinds of blacksmithing and repairing.

Their stock is very large, including all the most popular styles of buggies, spring wagons, etc., which they offer for sale at prices that are lower than elsewhere. They are expert judges of the goods they handle, and are able to buy on as favorable terms as dealers anywhere. They can therefore sell as cheaply as anybody and know the quality of their goods, which will always prove to be as they represent them.

J. L. WESTERVELT, GROCERIES AND QUEENSWARE.

Mr. Westervelt is a native of Ohio, but came to Illinois when quite young. For seven years prior to 1888 he was employed in his brother's grocery in the latter city. He began business for himself in 1888.

He occupies a room 25x70 feet on the north side of Locust street. It is well filled with a large and neatly kept stock of family and fancy groceries, queensware, confectionery, cigars, tobacco and fruits. His stock of family groceries includes the best of every article usually belonging to that class of goods. He makes a specialty of Peoria flour and all kinds of canned goods are kept in stock. His stock of glassware and queensware is large and increasing many very pretty patterns and sets.

He also keeps a stock of fresh fruits, both native and tropical. Apples, oranges, lemons, berries, etc.

In addition to all this he keeps a stock of cigars and tobacco and claims to have the best nickel cigar in town.

Mr. Westervelt is a young man, but has been in the grocery business long enough to become thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the people. He is of a social disposition, attends strictly to his business and has succeeded in building up an extensive trade.

VEATCH BROS., LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE.

Both members of this firm are natives of Livingston county and were raised on a farm near Fairbury. In January last they purchased Easton & Co.'s livery stable, on Locust street.

Fairbury has long been famous for its fine horses, and the stock of saddle and driving horses kept in this stable fully sustains the reputation of the village. Their buggies, carriages, barouches, surreys, etc., correspond with the fine horses that draw them, and no finer single or double rigs can be found anywhere.

They have stall room for 100 head of horses and give the best of attention to animals left in their care. They are accommodating gentlemen and endeavor to make the wayfaring of their patrons as comfortable and pleasant as possible.

THE CHICAGO COAL AND LUMBER CO., I. A. Blass, Manager.

This business was established about a year ago under the firm name of I. A. Blass, Shedd & Co. On the first of last January it was incorporated under the laws of the state with a paid up capital of $60,000 and has since that time been doing business under its corporate name. Their place of business is in the western part of the village near the railroad track.

They keep the largest stock of lumber and building material in the county. They are also agents between Chenoa and Piper City for the White Hall sewer pipe, which is probably unsurpassed in quality by any sewer pipe in the country. They are also sole agents for the Cubs' stoneware drain tile of which they have sold sixty car loads within the last ten months. They also have the exclusive handling in Fairbury of the Auburn "hand-fired" windmill which is manufactured at Cuba, Illinois.

During the past year they have sold over 600 car loads of wood and have shipped into Fairbury 200 car loads of freight in addition to a large amount that came in less than car load lots.

The immense amount of goods they handle gives them great advantages in the market over smaller dealers, both in prices and freights; and they are thus enabled to make very low prices to their customers.

This is one of the large enterprises for the town of Fairbury, more than any other town of its size in the state is famous. The business men embark in enterprises and push them to success that would appall the ordinary Rip Van Winkle towns where surround it. These enterprises all inure to the benefit of Fairbury as people are attracted long distances by the low prices made possible hereby the magnitude of the business transacted.

Mr. Shedd, the manager of this corporation, is a young man of fine business ability, wide awake to every possibility of securing upon the opening of success.

POWLEY, HENDERSON & FAULKENBERRY, HARDWARE AND TINWARE.

This firm occupy a room 40x70 feet on the north side of Locust street, where they keep a large stock of hardware, tinware, stoves, etc. Their room is fitted up in good style and well stocked, as also their stock neatly arranged. They have a great variety of the finest popular patterns of stoves and heating stoves, among them the celebrated Garland stoves and ranges.

They manufacture all kinds of tinware and do tin and sheet iron work, such as roofing, spouting, etc. In this line, during the season for such work, they do more business than any firm in this county.

They carry a assortment of tinware in stock, together with copper and wooden ware, corkage, etc. Their line of staple and pocket cutlery is worthy of special mention. They have every thing that belongs to the hardware trade and sell as cheap as anybody.

UPTABOUR MARBLE WORKS. O. GILBO, PROPRIETOR.

Mr. Gilbo is a native of Michigan, learned his trade with M. S. Dart, of Pontiac, in that state. In 1880 he came to Fairbury and started the Fairbury Marble Works, which are located on the south side of Locust street, nearly opposite the Archer House.

He manufactures monuments, all kinds of marble and granite monuments and head stones, copings, iron fencing, etc. He has on exhibition at his works a stock of handsome and monumental designs in the most artistic manner. It will be to the interest of those contemplating the purchase of anything in this line to see his designs and learn his prices before making a selection. They will find Mr. Gilbo honorable in all his dealings.

JOHN CONERUS, CIGAR FACTORY.

Mr. Conerus is a native of Germany. He came to the United States in 1873, and took up his residence in Aurora, Illinois, where he remained till 1881 when he came to Fairbury and engaged in the business of manufacturing cigars. His factory is located on the second floor of what is known as the Syndicate building.

His business gives employment to five cigar makers and he turns out an excellent line of cigars. His brand, “No. 101” is as good a ten-cent cigar as is made anywhere, and his “No. 57” and “Finest” are unsurpassed in quality of stock and flavor. He also manufactures a number of private brands for special customers, which are very popular. All his goods are made of clear Havana tobacco, and no dishonest adulterations will be found in them.

D. F. WIGHTMAN, LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE.

Mr. Wightman was born in Oswego county, New York, and continued to reside there for forty years. In 1877 he came to Fairbury.

He erected his stable and opened for business January 1st, last. He keeps a fine stock of saddle and buggy horses, buggies and carriages. He has stall room for about sixty head of horses, and contemplates making additions soon that will enable him to take care of 100. Horses entrusted to his care receive the very best of attention.

With his fine rigs, double or single, as are to be had anywhere, and at reasonable prices, drivers are furnished when desired to accompany travelers to any part of the country.

TAYLOR & BARTLEY, GRAIN.

This firm is composed of H. L. Taylor and W. H. Bartley. Mr. Taylor is a native of Indiana and Mr. Bartley is an Illinoisan, born and reared in Fairbury. Their partnership was formed in 1888, for the

purpose of dealing in grain, etc. Their office is on the north side of Locust street, near the east end.

They buy and ship grain of all kinds, always paying the highest market prices. They are prepared to store 10,000 bushels and have facilities for handling about 8,000 bushels per day. They keep a supply of timothy, clover and other grass seeds for sale.

They do a liberal business, and in every way reliable and pleasant gentlemen to deal with.

H. E. JOHNSON, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Dr. Johnson was born and reared in Vermont. In 1857 he was graduated from the Castleton Medical College, at Castleton, in that state, and located for the practice of his profession at Halifax, Vermont, where he remained till 1867. In that year he came to Illinois and resided two years in Stull's farm Valley, Ogle county, and afterwards at Weston, Ill., till 1877, when he came to Fairbury.

Dr. Johnson has been constantly engaged in the practice of his profession for thirty-two years and during all that time has been a close student and is thoroughly acquainted with all the discoveries and improvements in every branch of his profession.

His office is over Beach & Dominy's bank.

JOHNSON BROS., PROPRIETORS "MEDICINE."

This firm is composed of W. H. and C. E. Johnson, sons of H. E. Johnson, M. D., who is the author of the formula from which the remedies are compounded.

Mr. C. E. is a native of Vermont, but came with his father to Illinois when but a small boy. C. E. is a native of Illinois.

They manufacture "Johnson's Colic Specific," which has acquired a great reputation by its uniform success in combating the diseases for which it is designed to be used. It checks all violent pains of the stomach, cramps, pain and stoppages in the bowels, system or inflammations; and giving relief and an emulsion of chills are of equally wonderful. Its great value as a remedy is attested to by great numbers of people of all occupations and professions who have used it.

They also manufacture Johnson's Condition Powders and "Worm Eradicator," which has been proved by long use to be a very valuable remedy. It not only eradicates worms from the system, but is a valuable tonic, increasing the appetite and adding flesh and is a preventive of cholera in hogs.

The demand for these remedies is rapidly increasing and they are to be had in nearly all drug stores in Central Illinois. All correspondence in regard to them will receive the prompt attention of one of the proprietors. Their office is over Beach & Dominy's bank.

A. H. MUNDT, JEWELER.

Mr. Mundt was born in Bremen, Germany, and began to learn the jewelry trade in that city when only ten years old. Three years later he came to the United States and finished learning his trade in Peoria, with M. E. Thiem, who has the largest jewelry establishment in that city. He afterwards started a jewelry store in Washington, Ill., but after six months was taken down with a severe attack of fever and by the time he recovered so as to be able to attend to business he was robbed in succeeding in getting away with all his stock. He came to Fairbury in 1869, and the next year his place of business was destroyed by fire.

He began business in his present location at the corner of Locust and Third streets, where he occupies a large and well appointed store. He keeps a fine stock of jewelry, silver and plated ware, and all American watches.

Mr. R. K. Chase, who is in charge of this store as manager, is a first-class watchmaker and jeweler, and a fine engraver. Only first-class stock is kept in this establishment and the large variety kept makes a handsome display. His prices will compare favorably with all in any city.

McDOWELL BROS., IMPORTERS OF ENGLISH SHIRE AND CLYDESDALE HORSES.

To improve the breeds of horses in the United States is receiving greater attention each year and the importation from Europe of high bred strains have reached immense proportions. Illinois perhaps leads all other states in this movement for the improvement of the stock of horses, and Livingston is among the foremost counties in the state in that regard.

McDowell Bros. began the business of importing thoroughbred English Shire horses in 1887, and have now at their stables on Paducah avenue, a large number of the finest specimens of this excellent breed, which are all eligible to a place in the stud book.

The well known reasonable prices and terms to suit purchasers.

MAPEL BROS., HARNESS AND CARRIAGES.

Both members of this firm were born in Wheeling county, West Virginia, and lived there till 1865, when they came to Bureau county, Illinois, where they remained only two years. They then moved to McLean county and from there to Fairbury in 1869. They opened out a small stock of harness on the 2d day of October in a room 14x28 feet which was destroyed by fire on the 16th. On the 25th they resumed business in a frame building that stood on the same lot they now occupy. The next year they erected a frame building 25x40 feet, in which they continued to carry on their business till 1884, when it was consumed in the great fire of that year, which destroyed a large part of the business houses of the village. They then erected a brick building 25x60 feet to which they made an addition of 25x40 feet in 1887, so that the building they now occupy is 25x100 feet. This building contains their store rooms and shop.

They manufacture all kinds of heavy and light harness of which they display a large quantity in stock. Their harness is substantially and neatly made and only the best material is used. In addition to the harness of their own manufacture they keep a line of factory made single buggy harness in stock. Their

stock also includes a variety of saddles, whips, robes, blankets, and all the various kinds of horse trappings to be found in any first-class harness store.

They also deal in farm wagons, buggies, carriages and cutters, trunks, valises and binder twine. Their wagons, buggies, etc., are kept in a large building detached from the harness store. In all the lines they handle they do a large business and carry a full stock. They employ eight harness makers, one carriage trimmer and one blacksmith. This large business has been built up in twenty years from a small beginning, surviving two disastrous fires, and expanding to its present proportions. This has only been accomplished by close attention to business and correct and honorable business methods.

"Small profits" is their motto, and it expresses the policy that has made Fairbury the liveliest town in Central Illinois.

WALTON BROS., PALACE OF TRADE.

Isaac and J. W. Walton, who comprise this firm, were both born and raised in Ohio. Isaac came to Illinois in 1854, J. W. not till 1868. In the early part of the war they both enlisted in the army and served till its close. After the war Isaac was for some time engaged in mining in Idaho, but in 1877 he returned to Illinois and opened up a small stock of groceries in Fairbury. He was joined the next year by his brother, J. W., and in 1871 they enlarged their stock and erected a brick business house, 25x75 feet. From this humble beginning their business has twice grown to astonishing proportions. In 1884 their business included a large mill, grain elevators and cribs, occupying two entire blocks, and their lines of general merchandise more than half a block. On the night of October 11, of that year, a fire broke out that was not extinguished till it had destroyed all their buildings with their entire contents. Nothing whatever was saved, and on the morning of the 12th of October, 1884, they saw only ashes and smouldering ruins where the day before was the mart that had been created by them, after years of toil and close application to business.

Men of smaller courage and hope would have been crushed by such loss, but instead as to the course to be pursued. But in their case there was no hesitation. Fifteen days saw them prepared with as large a stock as before, and their sales running to $1,000 and $1,200 per day. In 1886 they built a creamery near the old square on the site of their burnt building.

Previous to this they had purchased the central coal shaft, mainly to prevent falling into the hands of a foreign company that might not run it in a way to benefit the people of Fairbury and surrounding country. It had been allowed to fall into bad repair, but under their management it has been put into good condition, and coal continues to be sold here cheaper than in any other village or city in Central Illinois. They are still proprietors of this mine, which gives employment to from fifty to one hundred men.

They again occupy nearly two blocks with a large mill and elevator, and occupy five large rooms with the most extensive stock of general merchandise in Central Illinois. Four of their rooms front south, on Locust street. Beginning at the east the first which is 25x120 feet, is occupied by clothing, gents' furnishing goods, etc. Next to this, on west, and connected with it by an arch opening in the partition, is a room of the same size devoted to dry goods, ladies' and misses', etc. A third room, 25x140 feet, adjoins this on the west, which is completely filled with a stock of groceries, hardware, paints, oils, etc.

A block west of this, their stock of furniture is kept in a building 25x100 feet. On the south side of the of the same street, a building 50x75 feet, contains a stock of farm implement, buggies, and harness. In these buildings they employ 25 clerks, who are kept busy waiting on customers.

Their general out-building gives but feeble idea of the extent of their business. These five rooms covering nearly 16,000 square feet are filled to their utmost capacity with goods equal in every respect to of every description to any kept in large cities. To appreciate the amount of business done here one should take his stand at a convenient point any Saturday afternoon and note the crowds that constantly come and go, carrying away such loads of goods as to cause him to wonder how soon the supply will be exhausted. But if he will step inside his solicitous clerks will show him what it appears to be practically inexhaustible.

The question is often asked, What is the secret of their success? It has received various answers. The writer of this does not pretend to know their secrets, but will venture to mention what he considers one important element in their prosperity, which is not a secret, and that is their policy of selling their goods at the very lowest possible prices. In the five years that have elapsed since their whole business went up in flames and smoke, they have more than replaced their losses, and are continually extending their trade.

Their influence in contributing to the growth and commercial importance of Fairbury is a subject which the people of the village do not fail to recognize, but which the limits of this article prevents being suitably mentioned here.

WESTERVELT & CO., GROCERS, BOOTS AND SHOES.

The members of this firm are O. S. Westervelt and F. E. Gravina. Mr. W. is a native of Westerville, Ohio, where he resided till 1861, when he came to Illinois and was engaged in farming till 1867, when he went to Kankakee and engaged in the stone and lime business. In 1869 he came to Fairbury and formed the partnership which still exists. Mr. G. was also born and raised in Westerville, Ohio. Came to Fairbury in 1869 and entered into his present business relations with Mr. Westervelt.

They occupy a building 25x80 feet, on the north side of Locust street between Second and Third. Their stock consists of a full line of staple and fancy groceries, queensware, glassware, boots, shoes, carpets, gloves, etc. They keep a very large assortment of family groceries, which includes the best of every article in the line to be had in the market. They make a specialty of flour, and handle "the popular brands" manufactured at Delavan, Ill., and Davenport, Iowa. They keep a full line of boots and shoes of the best American manufacture, among them the Douglas $3.00 shoe and the C. H. Fargo shoe. They always keep on hand a stock of overalls, gloves, etc. All these goods are kept in a neat and orderly condition, have been purchased at very low prices, and are for sale at prices that defy competition. They are also agents for the Deering binder.

This firm has been in business here for twenty years, and during that time have built up a large and profitable trade which extends throughout the country tributary to Fairbury. Their manner of doing business has made them many friends, and their business prosperity rests on the solid basis of honest

methods and low prices. As citizens their names are always to be found connected with every worthy enterprise for the advancement of the best interests of the village.

STOCK REMEDY CO., MANUFACTURERS OF HORSE, HOG AND POULTRY MEDICINES.

The ravages of what is known as cholera among swine and poultry for a number of years have attracted the attention of men of science to the investigation of its causes, with a view to devising means for its prevention and cure. Many nostrums have been concocted and either peddled out to farmers and poultry raisers or widely advertised and kept in the drug stores. Some of them undoubtedly possess merit, but none proved entirely successful till Dr. Camp's Swine Cure and Worm Destroyer and Camp's Growth Producer and Cholera Preventive, after being thoroughly tested—

thoroughly tested, were placed upon the market. The theory which led to the discovery of these remedies seems to be logical, and at any rate it led to a conclusion which has been practically demonstrated to produce the desired results. The demand for these remedies being constantly and satisfactorily increasing, a stock company was organized, under the above title, for the purpose of manufacturing them on a large scale. There seems to be no question as to the great value of these remedies, and all persons who are interested in the swine or poultry business should inform themselves on the subject and prepare themselves to guard against the losses annually caused by cholera among swine and poultry. The Stock Remedy Co. solicit correspondence on the subject, and will promptly furnish all information desired in regard to their business.

They also manufacture Dr. Max's Great German Colic Specific for horses, and condition powders for horses and cattle.

C. O. LEWIS, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Dr. Lewis was born in Millersburg, Ohio, and lived there till he was nineteen years old, when he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio. In 1875, he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1880, and three years later received the degree of A. M., in course from that institution. He then began the study of medicine in the office of Russell & Wilson, Mount Vernon, Ohio, where he continued to prosecute his studies for two years. In the winter of 1881-2 he attended a course of lectures at the Columbus Medical college, and received special private instructions from Prof. Hamilton, the brother of Ex-Gov. Hamilton, of Illinois. He afterwards entered the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, and was graduated from that institution in 1883, and the same year located in Fairbury for the practice of his profession.

His office, which is one door east of Beach & Dominy's bank, is tastefully furnished. He keeps a supply of pure drugs for his own use, and has a very fine collection of surgical instruments and appliances. His office is connected by telephone with his residence.

Dr. Lewis is a scholarly gentleman, a close student of his profession, and has a fine library which contains all the standard medical works. He has, during his six years residence in Fairbury, built up an extensive and lucrative practice.

CLAUDON BROS., GRAIN.

This firm is composed of T. A. B. and N. B. Claudon. They are both natives of France. A. B. came to America and took up his residence in Chenoa in 1867, and was engaged in the harness business in that village till 1869, when he came to Fairbury and worked at his trade till 1875, since which time he has been engaged in buying grain. N. B. came to America in 1873, and was engaged in farming from that time till 1888, with the exception of two years spent in general store in Denver. He came to Fairbury in 1888 and joined his brother in the grain business.

Their elevator is east of the depot, and has a storage capacity, including cribs and bins, of 140,000 bushels. They can handle about 10,000 bushels per day and can shell 6,000 bushels of corn. They handle between 400,000 and 500,000 bushels of grain annually. They are also prepared to manufacture graham flour and corn meal of the very best quality, and keep a supply of hard coal for sale.

A. B. Claudon is also engaged in the business of discounting notes and loaning money.

J. A. BIEGGE, GROCERY AND RESTAURANT.

Mr. Biegge was born in Waynetown, Indiana, but came to Fairbury in 1858, when only ten years old, and has resided here and in this vicinity ever since.

In January of the present year he opened his restaurant and grocery on the north side of Locust street, near the business center of the village. He occupies a building 30x70 feet, which is divided into three rooms. In the first he keeps a stock of staple and fancy groceries, confectionery, canned goods, cigars and tobacco, and is also closing out a stock of boots and shoes at extremely low prices. The second apartment is fitted up as a dining room, where he serves meals at all hours, and oysters in all styles. The bill of fare includes the best to be had in the market, and is cooked and served in first-class style.

D. BREWER, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Dr. Brewer is a native of Warren, Trumbull county, Ohio, but removed with his parents to Wisconsin when a child. At the age of seventeen he started out to make his own way in the world. By persistent industry and economy he succeeded in obtaining a good education. His habits of industry and thorough mastery of everything he undertook soon brought him into notice, and before he was thirty years old he held the position of principal of the state reform school of Wisconsin. He afterwards entered Bennett Medical College, Chicago, and was graduated from that institution in 1874. In 1876 he was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago. He has resided in Fairbury since 1873, and has built up an extensive practice. In all the affairs of life the same industry and conscientious thoroughness he displays in his profession. He established himself in business at the village, and his skill characterizes him and serves to give him the confidence of the community in which he lives. He is a close student of his profession, and has been very successful in practice.

NOTE: This illustration appeared in the School section.

SOUTH SIDE SCHOOL BUILDING